

Prevent us, O Lord

Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favour,
and further us with thy continual help:
that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee,
we may glorify thy holy Name,
and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Collect from the Form and Manner of Ordaining and Consecrating Bishops, Priests,
and Deacons in the Church of England, as written in the Book of Common Prayer*

William Byrd (ca.1540–1623)
edited by Richard Shakeshaft

The musical score is written for five voices: Soprano, Alto I, Alto II, Tenor, and Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/2. The lyrics are: "Pre - vent us, O Lord, in all our do -". The Soprano part begins with a Discantus. The Alto I part begins with an Altus. The Alto II part begins with a Medius. The Tenor part begins with a Tenor. The Bass part begins with a Bassus. The score is presented in a single system with five staves, each with its respective voice label on the left. The lyrics are printed below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.